

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 13373 081549Z

53

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 IOE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00

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USUN FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS ADVISER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OTRA, LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE MEDIA REPS AT U.N.

1. SUMMARY. LEBANESE INFORMATION MINISTRY AND PRIVATE LEBANESE MEDIA SENDING SIZEABLE NUMBER OF REPS TO NEW YORK TO COVER PRESIDENT FRANJIEH'S VISIT TO U.N. AND ENGAGE IN PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITIES FOR GOL. MINISTRY HAS REQUESTED MISSION'S ASSISTANCE IN MAKING CONTACT WITH USG AND PRIVATE MEDIA REPS IN NEW YORK TO FACILITATE ITS WORK. MISSION HAS PROVIDED MINISTRY WITH BASIC LIST OF CONTACTS AND REQUESTS ADDRESSEES TO PROVIDE MINISTRY AND PRIVATE LEBANESE MEDIA REPS WITH ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. RAMEZ KHAZEN, DIRECT-GENERAL OF INFORMATION MINISTRY, HAS INFORMED MISSION THAT GOL IS SENDING 13-MAN PRESS DELEGATION TO COVER PRESIDENT FRANJIEH'S VISIT TO

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 13373 081549Z

U.N. AND ENGAGE IN PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITIES FOR GOL.

DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY IV NOMINEE MOHAMMED MACHNOUK, DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY, AND WILL INCLUDE FSI-BEIRUT INSTRUCTOR NASH'AT NAJA (PRODUCER/ANNOUNCER OF RADIO LEBANON'S ARABIC-LANGUAGE "RADIO NEWSREEL" WHICH USES THRICE-WEEKLY VOA ARABIC LANGUAGE TELEPHONE FEED), GHASSAN SAKR (ARABIC-LANGUAGE EDITOR FOR NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY), HASSAN KHOURY (PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER FOR INFORMATION MINISTRY), MOUNIR VICTOR SADAKA (ANNOUNCER FOR RADIO LEBANON'S ENGLISH-LANGUAGE SERVICE), ADEL MALEK (NEWSCASTER FOR ARABIC-LANGUAGE TV AND STRINGER FOR VOA ARABIC SERVICE), RAYMOND KRAINIK (NEWSCASTER FOR FRENCH-LANGUAGE TV), AND SIX (6) TECHNICIANS. MACHNOUK, NAJA, KHOURY, AND SADAKA SPEAK EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND WILL PROBABLY MAKE MOST OF DELEGATIONS'S CONTACTS.

3. KHAZEN AND MEMBERS OF DELEGATION DEPARTED BEIRUT THIS MORNIGN (NOV. 8) AND WILL ARRIVE NEW YORK TONIGHT. LEBANESE MISSION TO U.N., IN PERSON OF CONSUL GHAZI CHIDIAC, WILL HANDLE ARRIVAL, TRANSPORTATION, AND LODGING.

4. KHAZEN HAS MADE ORAL REQUEST FOR MISSION FOR ASSISTANCE IN MAKING CONTACT WITH USG AND PRIVATE MEDIA REPS IN NEW YORK TO FACILITATE DELEGATION'S WORK. HE HAS ALSO MADE WRITTEN REQUEST TO VOA-BEIRUT FOR ASSISTANCE IN "ASSURING FACILITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AND DIRECT RANSMISSIONS." HIS PRIMARY INTERESTS ARE IN (A) MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO TRANSMIT TV, RADIO, PHOTO, AND PRINT COVERAGE BY SATELLITE, TELEPHONE, RADIOPHOTO, AND TELEX AND (B) GENERATING U.S. DOMESTIC MEDIA COVERAGE OF LEBANESE ACTIVITIES AT U.N.

5. MISSION HAS PROVIDED NAMES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF WILLIAM STRICKER, DIRECTOR OF NEW YORK FOREIGN PRESS CENTER, AND COURTNEY SHELDON, PUBLIC AFFAIRS ADVISER OF USUN. LOCAL U.S. MEDIA REPS HAVE, THROUGH MISSION, PROVIDED ADDITIONAL NAMES IN THEIR NYC AND UN BUREAUS AS WELL. MISSION ENJOYS BEST OF RELATIONS WITH INFORMATION MINISTRY AND WITH KHAZEN IN PARTICULAR, AND MINISTRY SPARED NO EFFORT DURING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT TO LEBANON. MISSION WOULD THUS APPRECIATE ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TO GOL PRESS DELEGATION.

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6. LARGE CONTINGENT OF PRIVATE LEBANESE MEDIA REPS ALSO TRAVELLING TO NEW YORK. THESE INCLUDE FORMER ARAB LEAGUE "EMISSARY" TO U.S. CLOVIS MAKSOUD FOR LEADING INDEPENDENT ARABIC-LANGUAGE DAILY "AN-NAHAR", FORMER INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANTEE AND ASSISTANT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF MARWAN HAMADEH FOR LEADING INDEPENDENT FRENCH-LANGUAGE DAILY "L'ORIENT-LE JOUR". EDITOR-IN-CHIEF JIHAD KHAZEN AND NATIONAL EDITOR HANNA ANBAR FOR INDEPENDENT ENGLISH-

LANGUAGE "DAILY STAR" AND SISTER PAPER, PRO-WEST
PRO-SAUDI ARABIC-LANGUAGE DAILY "AL-HAYAT", PUBLISHER
WAFIC TIBI FOR PRO-EGYPTIAN ARABIC-LANGUAGE DAILY
"AL-YOUM", EDITOR-IN-CHIEF SLEIMAN FIRZLI FOR PRO-
IRAQI ARABIC-LANGUAGE DAILY "BEIRUT", GEORGES BACHIR AND
IBRAHIM ABU NAAB FOR LEADING INDEPENDENT ARABIC-LANGUAGE
WEEKLY "AL-HAWADITH", COL. HAYTHAM AL-AYYUBI FOR
INDEPENDENT ARABIC-LANGUAGE WEEKLY "AL-USBU' AL-'ARABI",
PUBLISHER ALI BALLOUT FOR PRO-IRAQI ARABIC-LANGUAGE WEEKLY
"AD-DUSTOUR", AND HARES CHEHAB FOR DAILY ARAB NEWS AGENCY
ARABIC/FRENCH BULLETIN.

7. MAKSOUD, HAMADEH, JIHAD KHAZEN, ANBAR, AND CHEHAB
ARE CLOSE MISSION CONTACTS, AND MISSION WOULD THUS APPRECIATE
ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TO THESE IN PARTICULAR AS OCCASION
ARISES.
GODLEY

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